talk about the Ramanathapuram scheme. I had a chance to go there in company with a prince of the Ruling family and we found that there was not even 25 per cent of what was reported. In paper there was a great clamour, but in reality there was very little. If we formulate any scheme based upon paper reports perhaps we will come to grief. We must have first-hand information and study on the spot, before they embark upon things of which they hear so much in the Press. In the case of child welfare work and also in the case of rural reconstruction work, these officers will do well not to rely on paper. They must have first-hand knowledge before they formulate any definite scheme, so that the money presented by His Highness may not be wasted on their whimsies and fancies. With this humble suggestion, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my resolution.

Resolution was, with leave, withdrawn

Amount sanctioned for Medical Relief—to be set apart for Ayurvedic Department.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Before moving the resolution I should like to know from the Government whether a similar division as is now stated to have been effected with regard to the one lakh of rupees has already been effected with regard to this three lakhs of rupees. In that case there is no point in moving my resolution.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—A scheme was submitted to the Government and orders have not yet been passed. The proposal at present is to improve the existing institutions in the State.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Ayurvedic institutions?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Have orders been passed?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Though formal orders have not been passed it is more or less decided to accept the proposal.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—But before orders are passed there was an understanding that we will be given a chance to discuss the question.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The amount has been put under non-votable head.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—It is not a question of votable or non-votable. We cannot reduce the grant if it is non-votable. Non-votable does not mean that it is a non-discussable subject.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not think there was any definite undertaking that it will be placed for discussion. I said so once but then I corrected myself and said that it is to be

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considered. The question was considered and it was put under the non-votable head.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—This sum is not got from the sky. It is from the tax collected from us. So we have got a right to know how this three lakhs of rupees is going to be spent.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Sir, with the information supplied by the Government I feel that it is not even now too late to make an attempt to move the Government in the right direction and with that object in view I move the Resolution that is against my name:

The Resolution runs thus:—"This Council recommends to the Government that one half of the amount of three lakhs of rupees sanctioned by His Highness for giving Medical relief be set apart for the improvement of the recently opened Ayurvedic Department".

What has been announced by His Gracious Highness on that important occasion was that His Highness had been pleased to set apart an amount of 3 lakhs of rupees for giving medical relief. That announcement must have been made with the knowledge that the medical relief obtaining to-day has to be supplemented largely. When we are on the question of medical relief to me it strikes that the Ayurvedic system of treatment deserves to be seriously considered, It is very painful to note that in the elaborate proposals submitted by the Head of the Medical Department no provision has been made for the Ayurvedic department at all. Although that is a painful information that is given to us, it is not anything surprising, knowing as we do the attitude of the Head of the Department towards this all-important section of medical relief. The discussion this morning upon another subject namely the issue of certificates for purposes of sick leave by Ayurvedic physicians of repute clearly shows what the attitude of the medical head towards these physicians is and therefore towards that system. But at any rate this system is a very popular one, one to which the people of this State are very much attached as is evidently clear from the fact that in the recently opened institute at Trichur for Ayurvedic treatment there is a large rush of people for treatment. Anyone who had occasion to visit this institution or any one who had taken pains to see what is going on there must have been impressed by the fact that a good many of the people round about resort to that institution although within close proximity we have got the civil hospital at Trichur. What I find is that the institution is at present receiving only a step-motherly treatment at the hands of the Government. The amount that is sanctioned for its up-keep for its maintenance, for the supply of medicine, etc., is very little. In the budget for this year we saw a very small amount being set apart to meet the requirements of this department. Therefore I thought it to be in the fitness of things to request the

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Government that of this amount of three lakhs a moiety may be set apart for improving the recently opened Ayurvedic hospital. As I understand that the proposal submitted does not contain any provision for this section of medical relief and as I understand that orders have not as yet been passed, I hope before passing orders on the proposals submitted by the C. M. O. this aspect of the case will be considered by the Government. With that object in view I commend this resolution for the acceptance of this House.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Sir, further down in the agenda there is a similar resolution standing in my name. Though it does not go to the extent of 50 per cent it goes to the extent of 15 per cent. So I may be allowed to second the resolution and in doing so to add a few words to what the Hon'ble the Mover has stated just now on behalf of the Ayurvedic system of the country to-day. Very briefly it is this. Nobody can contend or gainsay the fact that there is a unique and wonderful virtue in the Ayurvedic system of treatment. It is a time honoured system. This system was flourishing long before the western medical system was even in the incipient stage. That system has got a wonderful and unique virtue. We have not many instances and occasionally at least it has come into prominence. This morning or perhaps yesterday the Leader of the House was pleased to make a remark as regards treatment as functional and symptomatic. I maintain that most of the treatment undertaken by this system is functional whereas a good deal of the treatment made by the allopathic system is symptomatic. I am open to correction because I am not a medical man. Again I have heard that in the case of certain diseases like Typhoid, Pneumonia, Small Pox, etc., the allopathic system has no treatment at all but a kind of nursing. Even for these diseases the Ayurvedic system has got a method of treatment. As regards virtue I do not think that anybody can gainsay the fact and not much elaboration is necessary.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Will the Hon'ble Member be pleased to state what more should be done for the Ayurvedic system ?

Mr. Joseph Pettah—I am coming to that. First of all let us see what are the potentialities in the system. Another thing is it is cheap and within the purse of the people and in that way also the system requires encouragement. Coming to the point raised by the Hon'ble the Secretary to the Diwan, the one great drawback of the system under which it is labouring in that it is not sufficiently systematised. There are even to-day, I think the Secretary was saying and the other members also that

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we have not got specified standards for measuring the qualifications of these Ayurvedic physicians and others. All that is because there is not a systematic development of the system. It is a system which has got a sort of existence and deep rooted and which has survived even the onslaughts of the western medical system. We see that for the last so many years we have been spending lakhs and lakhs of rupees on the Allopathic system and if therefore that system can claim any sort of development, any systematic existence here in the State it is because of the fabulous accounts of money we have been spending on it. Had we spent at least 20 per cent of the amount spent on the Allopathic system will the Hon'ble Members say that this system will not have a more systematised existence? I am fully satisfied that had we spent 10 per cent this Ayurvedic system would have been in a much better position and would have done immense good to the country. Very often certain remedies which are called Ottaoushadam known to some select men exist for some time only and die with them not having been communicated to others. Again in the matter of treatment a good deal of systematization is necessary. Another thing is that we don't get the necessary conveniences. One great temptation for people of the middle class and more so in the case of the upper class to go in for the allopathic treatment is its great facilities. The medicines are ready, they could be had without much trouble, whereas in the Ayurvedic system there are many difficulties. Therefore if you can provide more of hospitals, more of buildings where medicines can be manufactured under proper guidance and good methods of dispensing these medicines properly, proper standards of examination, propaganda to perpetuate this information, if these methods are adopted I suppose these are definite matters of fact which could be adopted for the encouragement of the Ayurvedic system here. I am afraid the Government have not taken any sympathetic view in the matter. I am sure if more of sympathy is entertained in this matter surely the Government would be in a position to devise ways and means. They have just made a beginning by starting a Central Ayurvedic Hospital. But it is the barest beginning that is made. For so many years we have been spending such large amounts on the Allopathic Institutions of the State, why not devote a portion to the Ayurvedic system? If we consider the benefits the country will be deriving we will find that much more benefit than the proportionate amount spent has been derived from the Ayurvedic system than from the Allopathic system. There are some of the ways of improving our Ayurvedic system. We want a medical college to teach the Ayurvedic system. Knowledge has to the spread and it has to be perpetuated, and it

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should be prevented from becoming extinct. Again certain standards should be prescribed and these things are possible only if money is forthcoming. So I find that as a matter of fact the root of everything lies in the want of sympathy which is shown by the Government in the matter. That again perhaps is because the Government takes the advice of their medical adviser. We know as a matter of fact that people accustomed to the allopathic system of medicine may not very well entertain a sympathetic attitude towards the ayurvedic system. Not because it is their fault but because they have been trained and brought up in that particular school of medicine. Because they belong to a particular school of medicine they may not know much about the technical character, about the virtues and about the latent potentialities of the ayurvedic system. But we, the non-official members on this side of the House, strongly believe and are fully convinced that there is a great future, a great potentiality, a unique virtue for the ayurvedic system if a reasonable amount of money can be spent in that department of the system. I hope the Government is not too late in the day and that the Government will lose no time in giving an encouragement that it deserves. I hope it will entertain better sympathy for this movement and will be even in the interests of economy that we spend a little more in this system.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—We all know that a large amount has been earmarked for expenditure on medical relief in connection with His Excellency the Viceroy's visit. I know very well what certain people in the name of Government will do with this amount. I anticipated this and raised this question in this Council Hall. The characteristics method in which the Hon'ble Secretary gave an answer was tantamount to saying that we would have a chance of expressing our views on the question and thus understand how they are going to spend this money.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—That is true.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I don't remember to have said like that.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The printed proceedings will clearly show that. All the members also understood that there would be a chance of discussing how the money is to be spent. It does not mean that we are going to cut down the amount. Though it may be a non-votable amount it is not a non-discussable subject for all non-votable items are not non-discussable. We are sure the money will be mispent and that our advice will be of no use. Now how is the money going to be spent? Perhaps it will be to create a few more posts to increase the conveniences of those who are already in service. For example there was a question discussed on the floor of this House about the scandal

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of scandals, namely the putting of three or four lunatics in one room in the Lunatic Asylum, Trichur. I framed a charge of man slaughter upon the Cochin Darbar. Have you ever heard in any civilised country except in the Cochin Lunatic Asylum in Trichur of two or three lunatics being placed in one andthe same room? You just go and see; one lunatic rubbing shoulder with another. This is the scandal. The Chief Medical Officer knows that. We unanimously recommended that it should be shifted, but all those recommendations were suppressed. What he proposes to do now is to put one or two buildings in the adjacent compound and five or six acres are going to be purchased by the Cochin Darbar. I know who the owner is and what he is to receive. I shall throw a bomb-shell after the purchase on the floor of this House. Do you think we are all sleeping here? We know the game; let the purchase be over and the name of the owner will come out. All these manipulations are only made so that four and five acres must be purchased in any case.

A committee was appointed by the Government consisting of the Chief Engineer, the Chief Medical Officer, Mr. Kochugovinda Marar and myself and we unanimously made certain recommendations in spite of the Chief Medical Officer's protest that it should be there. He was made to convince that the place ought to be shifted. In spite of that that was ommitted and the money is proposed to be spent on various other schemes. That is the reason why I said that the money given by His Highness the Maharaja if it is to be spent by them will be misspent and misused. Now what we ask is whether the conjoint opinion of the 30 elected members of this House has not the same weight of one single member sitting on the other side? If that is the case what is the use of our presence here? Why should we come here? Is it only to make noise to entertain people? What for do we come here? Give an answer. I am very serious. Now after having given an assurance to wriggle out of it you must have the courage. You told us you will place it before and you will take our opinion. You should not have given such an assurance. That is one reason.

Now turning to the Ayurvedic system. We are incompetent to discuss the merits and demerits of that system. Ayurvedic system and allopathic system are quite different. To discuss about that, one must be a master of both the sciences which none of us can claim to be. There are fools and clever men in both. They are not confined to one system, one place or one part of the globe or race. Now where is this Ayurvedic hospital situated? It is situated in a private house. An impartial Government Officer who feels the responsibility would advise the

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Government that a building should be put up for that hospital. But we don't find any such proposal here. What is the recommendation made by the Chief Medical Officer? So long as you have a department should you not house it properly? Should you white-wash the existing institutions or should you house the institutions properly?

The Lunatic Asylum is situated in the very heart of the Trichur town and the Municipality has been asking the Government to remove the hospital from the town. Only last week a resolution of the Council was passed. It fell on deaf-ears. You are all only some 12 seats in a corner. In what way, I ask, are you more competent than we people? Simply by chance or other reasons which I am not going to state you have come to occupy those seats. Immediately after they come to those seats they lose their heads. Nobody can question their opinion. Nobody can criticise their schemes. When such thoughts enter your head you are done for ever. People when they are actuated commit mistakes after mistakes and they find themselves unable to defend themselves. We again want to make our recommendations in this Council as to how we should spend the money. Will you consult us and will you give us a chance? That is what we want to know. This money was not taken from private sources or from Pandaravaka or from Devaswam funds. It is from the Cochin Public Fund and we, the representatives of the Cochin Public, have a right to see how these funds are spent than you have, if not more. Each head of the department makes a recommendation and it is said as the Government's recommendation. What is Government here in this State? Each man representing a department is the Government. I invite the Hon'ble Members of the House to come and verify whether the allegations made by me about the Lunatic Asylum are true or not. I know that there is accommodation only for 80, but there are about some 80 patients there in all. Such a scandal is going on. Now they are going to put a new block. The Chief Medical Officer signed the report that the place was to be shifted to a place some 4½ miles away. Now he coolly forgets all that. That is what is taking place. You sometimes unnecessarily give us cause to criticise you. You give us a cause, you irritate us unnecessarily and then you say that we criticise you. Why should you give us provocation and when we criticise you, why should you get annoyed? All that we can do is to criticise you. We know we cannot remove you from your places. But nothing prevents us from lashing you with our tongue and so we will persistently hammer you if you persist in this method. Spending the money after giving us an assurance to take our views and then bungling the whole fund. That is what is being

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done now. Now what is going to happen is you are certain to bungle the whole amount and create discontentment as a result of your activities.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Sir, with due deference to the Hon'ble the Secretary to the Diwan I must assert that, to the best of my recollection, a sort of feeling at any rate, was created in this House on the last occasion, that the Hon'ble Members of the House will have an opportunity of discussing the scheme. Because the printed proceedings are not available I am unable to quote the exact words of the Secretary. I have no quarrel with that. Perhaps we might have been fooled into the belief that we might have an opportunity. Perhaps the strict interpretation of the letter of the observations might be we would not get an opportunity. Any how we were under the impression rightly or wrongly that we would have the opportunity. If that is not so let it go. To the best of my belief I understand that the whole of the three lakhs is to be spent on brick and mortar. No doubt it may be spread over all the taluks or some of the taluks or more than one institution in the same taluk. At any rate the major portion will go to the general hospital. Of course with regard to the history of the development of the General Hospital the less said the better (Hear hear) An extensive estate has been created. Under the specific plea that certain buildings have to be put up there for the use of the General Hospital. These buildings have not been put up and no use has been served by the acquisition. But that is apart from the question. We are now on the question to withhold some fund for the Ayurvedic system of treatment which has been recognised as a useful one by the establishment of the hospital at Trichur. Granting that the Government has accepted the principle and admitting the excellence of the treatment at least to the extend of granting Rs. 10,000 and giving it a name; a sacred and hallowed name is it proper for the Government in the distribution of this amount of three lakhs to forget that institution altogether. If I remember correctly, it is named after the beloved Maharaja of Cochin. I believe it is called the Rama Varmha Hospital. What is the state of that hospital? It is called a hospital with no accommodation for a single patient. Have not the hospital authorities been clamouring for more accomodation, let alone other requests? There is no accommodation for a single patient. Is there accommodation for the patients who come there for medical advice to stand? I know the place. I know the number of persons who resort to the place. It is no exaggeration when I say that people who come there at 8 o'clock in the morning have to wait till 7 o'clock at night. No doubt I am not ascribing any

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fault on anybody. One senior man is directed to prescribe. How many persons can be examined by one man in one hour? Perhaps with Stethoscope and thermometer it is done easily and perhaps because the Ayurvedic system is not so systametised and standardised by the Stethoscope and thermometer it may take more time. If I remember correctly the space available as standing room in the so called hospital is perhaps 10 or 12 koles square. How many persons can stand there? With regard to the other things I am not speaking anything because the hospitalis itself no hospital but it is only a dispensary. The Hon'ble Secretary has been asking what is it that we want. I am repeating the request; one is accommodation, *i. e.*, an accommodation to make it a real thing a hospital not only by the board but by the treatment accorded inside the building. Now with regard to the preparation of medicines. Supplies are necessary for the Ayurvedic hospitals recognised by the Government in the Cochin State. The whole cannot be supplied by the Central Ayurvedic institute in Trichur even if they are working at full swing. Most of the medicines are purchased from Cheruthuruthy. Why not we enable the Cochin Government to earn something by the distribution of medicines properly prepared? The third thing is if I am rightly informed they insist upon having a small garden where they can grow medicinal plants which are very rare to obtain. Where is the space for all these? In the present place there is only an open ground 12 koles square. If I am rightly informed all these points have been brought to the notice of the authorities. What action they have taken I am not in a position to say. We have the assurance that nothing has been provided for in the scheme. I need not go into the details. It has been totally ignored. Is it proper I ask, apart from the misunderstood assurance whatever that may be, apart from all these things when you have installed an institution with that name is it proper to treat it like this, to ignore it entirely and allow it remain only as a dispensary? Apart from the merits of Ayurvedic system which would call for no larger outlay I do not say anything. I am sorry some of my friends are not here to-day because I would have adduced material evidence of the successful treatment under the system. Persons who have been placed on the operation table twice and thrice have been cured by the Ayurvedic system without resort to the Scapel. I am not going to quote chapter and verse. I have come across cases where after the operation has been made there was not found any trace of the disease for which the operation was made. I am sorry my friend is not here or else I could have cited him. He was about to be placed on the operation table. Luckily an Ayur-

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vedic physician happened to be on the scene. He was asked to visit the patient. He said he will visit him if others will allow and he did visit. But he had no knife with him. Without using any knfe whatever, a little oil made use of in the proper way from 6 a. m. to 6 p. m. the man wanted to walk about. I am only copmlaining about the step-motherly treatment meted out to the Hospital at Trichur after having invested a considerable sum of money and giving a sacred name to it. To allow it to delay rot without sufficient accommodation, without sufficient facilities for giving the full benefit of the system, I say is not proper. With these words and more to emphasise the fact that no provision has been made for the Ayurvedic system out of the three lakhs, I support this resolution.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I also desire to support this motion. I cannot understand the attitude taken up by the Government. His Highness has given a boon to the subjects of the State. We, the representatives of the whole people of the State, tell the Government that we will give our suggestion. Where is the objection for the Government to allow us to give our suggestions? It was said on the floor of this House that opportunities will be given to us.

Dr. A. R. Menon — Quite so.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—If you are pleased with our suggestions accept them; if not you are at perfect liberty to reject them. Now the controversy raised is whether any promise was made. Even granting that no promise was made what is the harm for giving us a chance? Is it the case of the Chief Medical Officer that his prestige will go? We do not think that the wisdom of the Chief Medical Officer is more than that of the thirty-three non-official representatives of this House put together. You are going to confer a boon and we would like to suggest the lines on which it should be spent. Every year His Highness gives 4 or 5 lakhs to the people. Wherefrom does this money come? Is that money brought from heaven; it is public money given by us the tax-payers of the country. I ask where is the special sanctity attached to this amount? Is it on account of the fact that it was announced over a Dinner Table? You should not confer a boon against the wishes of the representatives of the people. I have no doubt that it is the intention of a constitutional monarch like our Maharaja to confer a boon against the wishes of the people. All of us understood that the matter will be placed before the Council. Perhaps a definite promise might not have been made. Perhaps the Secretary would have worded the proceedings in such a way. Are you going to force the boon down the throats of the people? I may say that the entire wisdom is not in the Government block. Personally speaking I

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am no admirer of this Ayurvedic system. To my mind a major portion should be spent on the allopathic system. But that is quite a different thing. This is how the Government unnecessarily courts criticism. We only say give us a chance to express our views. We have a council next month. This can be brought before the House then. I do not think that the wisdom of one head of department there, is more than one of the members on this side of the House. Prestige should not stand in the way. If such a boon is to be thrust upon the people against their wishes. I would also inform this House that it would be an insult to His Highness the Maharaja. Therefore I appeal to the Government to revise the position they have taken.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—ബൂൺ പ്രഖ്യാപനം ചെയ്തഭിപ്രായം സർക്കാരിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായമെപ്പറ്റി വ്യസനിക്കേയല്ലാതെ തരമില്ല. മഹാരാജാവ് തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ട് ഇന്നയിന്ന മാതിരിയാണ് ഈ സംഖ്യ ചിലവു ചെയ്യുവാൻ നിർദ്ദേശിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതെന്നു കൂടി പ്രഖ്യാപനത്തിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയിരുന്നെങ്കിൽ The King cannot err എന്നുള്ളതുകൊണ്ട് ഇവിടെ ഒരു വാദവും വരികയില്ലായിരുന്നു.

Deputy President.—We shall continue the discussion to-morrow.

The House rose for the day at 5 p. m.

C. J. MATHEW,

Secretary to the Council.

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